

REMARKS

Claims 48-50 are pending in this application. Claims 1-47 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 48 and 50 are amended. No new matter is involved.

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph Rejection

Claim 50 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for being indefinite in that there is insufficient basis for the language "the first region" in line 15 of claim 50. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 50, line 15, has been amended to change "the first region" to -- a first region -- to overcome this rejection.

Similarly, claim 48, line 8, has been amended in a similar manner, i.e., by changing "the first region" to -- a first region --.

Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments to claims 48 and 50 make those claims fully comply with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection, and allowance of claims 48-50 are respectfully requested.

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35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-10, 19-22, 24, 26-36, 39-41 and 43-47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lokuge in view of USP 5,602,597 to Bertram. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot because claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-10, 19-22, 24, 26-36, 39-41 and 43-47 have been canceled.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-10, 19-22, 24, 26-36, 39-41 and 43-47 are respectfully requested.

Claims 5, 8, 23 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Lokuge, Bertram and U.S. Patent 6,133,911 to Kim. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot because claims 5, 8, 23 and 25 have been canceled.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 5, 8, 23 and 25 are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and/or remarks, an issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert J. Webster, Reg. No. 46,472, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully petition under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and § 1.17 for a one-month extension of time in which to respond to the Examiner's Office Action. The Extension of Time Fee in the amount of \$120.00 is attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By Esther H. Chong
Esther H. Chong, #40,953

EHC/RJW:gf
0465-0766P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 201-8000